IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A digital watermark embedding method of embedding watermark information in an image signal, comprising:

extracting a specific frequency component signal from the input image signal;

controlling at least one of a phase and amplitude of the specific frequency component signal in accordance with the watermark information; ~~and~~

outputting an image signal embedded with the watermark information by superposing the specific frequency component signal, at least one of the phase and amplitude of which has been controlled, on the input image signal; and

limiting an amplitude of the specific frequency signal.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Original): The digital watermark embedding method according to claim 1, wherein extraction of the specified frequency component signal is randomized.

Claims 4-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (New): A digital watermark embedding method of embedding watermark information in an image signal, comprising:

extracting a specific frequency component signal from the input image signal;

controlling at least one of a phase and amplitude of the specific frequency component signal in accordance with the watermark information;

outputting an image signal embedded with the watermark information by superposing the specific frequency component signal whose phase is shifted, on the input image signal; and

limiting an amplitude of the specific frequency signal.

Claim 22 (New): The digital watermark embedding method according to claim 21, wherein extraction of the specified frequency component signal in random.